

03/21/1994

Reviewed by D. Edwards

VDHR Reconnaissance Survey Form

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES  
PROPERTY SURVEY FORM  
RECONNAISSANCE LEVEL

IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

VDHR File # 104-0235-000

Property Name:  
Historic Robert L. Updike House

NR Property Category: Building  
Wuzit: House

Tax Code: Section Parcel  
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County/City: Charlottesville (City)

USGS Map: USGS Quad: Charlottesville East

ADDRESS/LOCATION INFORMATION

Address: 620 Prospect Avenue Street

Location:

Vicinity of: Municipality: ZIP: 22903

PROPERTY CLASSIFICATION INFORMATION

Property Boundaries:  
Ownership: Private

RESOURCE COUNT -

#	Category	Contributing?
1	Building	Contributing

TOTAL: 1

Contrib: 1  
Non-Contrib: 0

WUZIT COUNT -

#	Wuzit	Contributing?
1	House	Contributing

TOTAL: 1

Contrib: 1  
Non-Contrib: 0

# RESOURCE - GENERAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

## Resource Level:

Estimated Construction Date: 1904

Source of Date: Tax Records

Physical Status: Existing

Condition: Good

Threat: None Known

Degree of Historic Integrity:

Association:

Design:

Feeling:

Location:

Materials:

Setting:

Workmanship:

## PRIMARY RESOURCE RECONNAISSANCE DESCRIPTION

Architectural Style/Derivative: Colonial Revival

# of Stories: 2.0 # of Bays Wide: 3 # of Bays Deep: 2

Arch Config: Geo Config:

Footprint:

Component	#	Form/Treatment	Material	Matr'l Treatment
Chimneys		Interior End	Brick	Corbelled
Foundation			Brick	
Portico		Full-ht.w/pediment	Brick	
Roof		Gable	Metal	Standing seam
Windows		sash	Wood	1/1 Double-hung

## Brief Architectural Description of Primary Resource:

When seen at a distance, this large house has the appearance of a much older house that has had a Colonial Revival portico added to it at a later date. The house is two storeys tall, three bays wide, and double pile with a full height portico on the facade and a wide 1-storey back porch.

It is set on a low brick foundation without a basement. Six projecting courses of half-thickness brick form the water table. Above it, brick is laid in 6-course American bond. The steep gable roof is covered with standing-seam metal and has projecting eaves and verges, boxed cornice with returns, and a double sash, 1-over-1 light, with wooden sills, architrave trim, and heavy concrete lintels. They are shorter at the second level and still shorter and smaller at the attic level. There is a cornerstone with the date 1904 under the western window on the facade and a plain inset panel under the other window. A full height portico covers the central bay of the facade. Four square brick columns with corbelled capitals, all painted white, support a wooden-shingled pediment. The ground level floor is made of octagonal concrete blocks. There is a 2-light

rectangular transom above the wide double entrance doors. Access is through a round-arched door with concrete keystone and endblocks and a half-round transom. The 1-storey back porch originally overlooked the Updike Brickyard. It has a low-pitched hip roof covered with standing-seam metal, with boxed cornice and plain frieze, supported by four slender Tuscan columns. It has a concrete floor.

Brief Architectural Description of Additions and Alterations  
N/A

Brief Architectural Description of Secondary Resources:

Potentially Contributes to Historic District:

Potentially Associated with NR Multiple Property:

Architectural and Historical Summary:

#### HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

In 1899 Robert L., Walter G., and E. Byrd Updike purchased 6 3/4 acres comprising a large part of the proposed Olinda subdivision on the old Orangedale estate (DB 14-166). All three were associated with their brother in the Eston Updike Brickyard just north of this tract.

Robert L. Updike bought his brothers' share of the property and built this house in 1904, according to tax records.

Updike died in 1937 (City WB 4-329), and the house was sold in 1940 to George M. Marshall, Lula Mae Marshall and Nellie Lewis Patterson (City DB 103-163). Mrs. Patterson bought the others' shares in 1957 (DB 199-117). Fendol P. Carter bought the house in 1960 (DB 217-366) and sold it to William Ivar Mawyer in 1978 (DB 396-820). He has subdivided the 5 1/2 acre lot.

1993: Keith O. Woodward purchased the property in 1987 (DB 498-777). This house has been used as a rental property for 40 years, but has been maintained in good condition.

Additional References: City DB 370-289.

#### SIGNIFICANCE & RELATION TO EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Robert L. Updike House is an interesting vernacular interpretation of the Colonial Revival style. It is listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places as a member of the Charlottesville Multiple Resource Area. The house, built in 1904, is unusual for its style in that it was most likely designed by its builder-owner, and is probably the largest "vernacular" Colonial Revival house in Charlottesville. Of special interest are the unique brick columns, obviously built of that material because the owner was the proprietor of a brickyard adjacent to this property.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Type of Record	Citation
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City Records	
Charlottesville City Deed Books and Will Books	

Interview  
William Ivar Mawyer

Interview  
Fendol Carter

PHOTOGRAPHIC/DRAWINGS DOCUMENTATION

MISSING DATA ELEMENT

Media	VDHR Neg #	Frames	Date
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B&W 35mm photos	13469	13 - 16	1/ /1994
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CRM MANAGEMENT EVENTS

MISSING DATA ELEMENT

CRM Event	Agency/Organization	Date
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Survey	Community Development-Bibb/Huppert	/ /1980
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IPS data entry-PAVA (Smead)